



NCLB Making a Difference in Louisiana

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Louisiana to more than \$1.9 billion – 45% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$289.5 million – \$92.8 million over 2001 levels – to help Louisiana's neediest children.
- Louisiana has received \$68.8 million in reading grants to help schools and districts improve children's reading achievement through scientifically proven methods of instruction since 2002. President Bush's proposed budget includes an additional \$26.4 million for Louisiana. In total, over six years, Louisiana is set to receive approximately \$124.7 million in Reading First funds.
- "Scores for Black, poor and special education students in the 2002-03 year improved at most St. Tammany Parish schools, according to data released recently from the Louisiana Department of Education's accountability process. 'We were pleased overall,' said Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Margo Guillot. Guillot said the system intensified its efforts with special education students three years ago as the Louisiana accountability process began. They have instituted several programs that have made a tremendous difference in pulling up special education scores, she said." (*New Orleans Times Picayune*, 1/14/04)
- "Among seven New Orleans area parishes, bottom-scoring Orleans, Jefferson and St. John the Baptist posted improvements in every grade over 2003. 'When almost all the scores are going in the same direction, it gives you pretty good confidence,' said Scott Norton, Director of Standards and Assessment for the state Education Department. 'The scores were positive. We're going in the right direction.'" (*New Orleans Times Picayune*, 5/14/04)
- "The *No Child Left Behind* Reading First program will be funding six schools for six years in Concordia Parish. The Reading First grant has a goal to have all students reading on or above grade level by third grade. Reading coaches will be in the district's schools to observe and support teachers, as well as and give model lessons. 'You are going to see drastic results,' said teacher Michelle Colwart." (*Natchez Democrat*, 6/3/04)